| | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 62 | 17,04,051 |
| 22. | West Bengal | 17 | 70,23,410 |
| 23. | Chandigarh | 1 | 23,699 |
| 24 | Dadar and Nagar Haveli | 1 | — |
| 25. | Daman and Diu | 1 | 460 |
| 26 | Pondicherry | 4 | 88,799 |

**STATEMENT-II**

*Literacy rate - 1991 Census*

| | India/States or Union Territory | Literacy rate percent |
|---|---|---|
| | INDIA | 52.21 |
| | **States** | |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 44 09 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 41.59 |
| 3 | Assam | 52.89 |
| 4 | Bihar | 38 48 |
| 5 | Delhi | 75 29 |
| 6 | Goa | 75 51 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 61 29 |
| 8 | Haryana | 55 85 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 63 86 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 56 04 |
| 11 | Kerala | 89 81 |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 44.20 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 64 87 |
| 14 | Manipur | 59 89 |
| 15 | Meghalaya | 49 10 |
| 16 | Mizoram | 82 27 |
| 17 | Nagaland | 61 65 |
| 18 | Orissa | 49 09 |
| 19 | Punjab | 58 51 |
| 20 | Rajasthan | 38 55 |
| 21 | Sikkim | 56 94 |
| 22 | Tamil Nadu | 62 66 |
| 23 | Tripura | 60 44 |
| 24 | Uttar Pradesh | 41.60 |
| 25 | West Bengal | 57 70 |
| | **Union Territories** | |
| 1 | A and N-Islands | 73 02 |
| 2 | Chandigarh | 77 81 |
| 3 | D and N Haveli | 40 71 |
| 4 | Daman and Diu | 71.20 |
| 5 | Lakshadweep | 81 78 |
| 6 | Pondicherry | 74.74 |

*[Translation]*

**Percentage of Passed Students**

543. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether 34 percent of the students from Government schools and 89 percent from public schools of Delhi have passed the Tenth class examination of 1996 conducted by the CBSE,

(b) if so, the reasons for this wide gap in the examination results between the Government and public schools and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to abridge this gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Government of N.C.T. of Delhi have intimated that the majority of students admitted to Government schools come from poor socio-economic background and very high percentage of them are first generation learners and as such cannot provide additional impetus at home This primarily contributes to the poor results in Government schools

(c) An action plan has been initiated with the involvement of District Heads, all Education Officers and involving those Principals who have shown good performance over the years. Under this special classes for bridging the gap and strengthening the basics of the students coupled with examination oriented education is being taken up from the current year

*[English]*

**Use of Timber in Government Buildings**

544 SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have banned the use of timber in construction of Government buildings by C.P.W.D.;

(b) whether the Government have also advised the State Governments in this regard, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR U VENKATESWARLU) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). The State Governments and Union Territories have already been advised in April, 1988

to reduce the consumption of wood and to use alternative materials which are available in the market.

**Flaws in Education System**

545. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the press newsitem captioned "Flaws in education system discovered" as reported in the Hindustan Times dated June 8, 1996;

(b) if so, the details and facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring amendment in the education policy to make it effective and job oriented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report, inter alia, refers to the drop-out rates, resources and issue of quality.

(c) and (d). The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 and its Programme of Action (POA) were up-dated and placed before the Parliament in 1992. As of now, the emphasis would be on toning up implementation and stepping up resources for education so that there is a better linkage between education and the world of work and improvement of access, retention and quality at all stages of education, particularly elementary education.

*[Translation]*

**Setting up of Bhasha Ayog**

546. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a dicision to set up "Sanskrit Aur Pracheen Bhasha Ayog";

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard;

(c) the details of Chaturvedi Report in this regard;

(d) by when the said Ayog will start functioning; and

(e) the reasons for delay, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). The main recommendations of the Chaturvedi Committee Report was to set up a Sanskrit and Classical Languages Commission through an Act of Parliament, as a national apex body for development of Sanskrit and Classical languages.

(d) No time frame has been fixed for this purpose.

(e) Does not arise.

*[English]*

**Management of Water Resources**

547. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose institutional innovations in the management of water resources in the country to make the provision and maintenance of irrigation services much more responsive to the farmer interests; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Irrigation being a state subject, operation and maintenance of irrigation systems is carried out by the State Governments. Recognising the impact of management turnover on irrigation efficiency, the National Water Policy (1987) emphasises farmers involvement in irrigation management. Government of India has been promoting farmers participation in irrigation management through its centrally sponsored Command Area Development programme and various externally aided irrigation management programmes.

*[Translation]*

**Inter-State Water Dispute**

548. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the present position of inter-State water disputes among Delhi, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan;

(b) the reasons for delay in resolving these disputes;

(c) the details of the outcome of the meetings of Chief Ministers/senior officials of these States, held during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to resolve these disputes amicably?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d). The inter-State dispute regarding surplus Ravi-Beas waters was referred to a Tribunal constituted by the Central